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53.02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mulham BAYASSI

Art Unit :

Serial No.:

Examiner :

Filed : January 3, 2002

Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR USE WITH E-MAIL

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Before examining the referenced application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows [a marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached as Appendix A]:

- A  
SUB  
BS
3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the notification message includes an identifier of a receiver/decoder to which the notification message is to be sent.
- SUB  
BS
5. (Amended) A method according to claim 3 wherein the receiver/decoder has a smartcard number and the identifier comprises at least part of the smartcard number.
- A2
6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising storing information relating to e-mail accounts, preferably at a central location.